Statement—II

Number of people below poverty line

S. No.	Year	No. of poor people (Million)
1.	1974	328.94
2.	1983-84	327.00
3.	1987-88	312.80
4.	1993	320.30

Source: Experts Group, Planning Commission, 1993.

Acute Shortage of drinking water in Gujarat

3508. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of drinking water in Gujarat State particularly in Kutch, Banaskantha and Jamnagar districts of the State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Kutch and Bar askantha are drought prone , border districts and after 51 years of independence there were 32 years of drought and scarcity;

(c) whether it is true that there were riots for drinking water in Jamnagar district; and

(d) what steps Central Government propose to take in this regard particularly in the aforesaid three districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the information furnished by the State Government, there was agitation for drinking water in the village Falla of Jamnagar district.

(d) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. The State Governments implement the programme under the State sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government only supplements the efforts of the States by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Powers have been delegated to the States to plan, sanction and implement their own individual rural water supply schemes.

It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to undertake immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities from the allocation to the State under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). The entire Central share of Rs. 121.05 crore, out of State's allocation of Rs. 161.40 crore under CRF for 1999-2000 was released to Gujarat. In addition to CRF, assistance was considered from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for calamities of rare severity in accordance with a set procedure. The Memorandum submitted by the State Government seeking assistance of Rs. 722.16 crore from the NFCR in the wake of drought was considered in accordance with the procedure and this was placed before the National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC) in the meeting held on 27.3.2000 and the NCRC approved an assistance of Rs. 54.58 crore from the National Fund for Calamity Relief. This amount was released to the State Government on 31.3.2000. Two quarterly installments of Centre's share of CRF for 2000-2001 amounting to Rs. 87.42 crore have also been released to the State. In addition to this, first installment of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) funds for the year 2000-2001 amounting to Rs. 3542.50 lakh and first installment of ARWSP(DDP) for the year 2000-2001 amounting Rs. 200.00 lakh have also been released to Gujarat.

Measures taken to provide employment

†3509. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unemployed persons in rural areas of the country as on 31st October, 1999;

(b) how many persons out of above are partially unemployed and how many fully unemployed;

(c) whether measures have been taken to provide gainful employment to such persons;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) The extent of unemployment is assessed through quinquennial surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation. The latest estimates available are for the year 1993-94. A broad assessment of partial unemployment, made by comparing incidence of unemployment on Usual Status basis with that on Current Daily Status basis, indicate that 4.71

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.